

THE LIFE OF A SCOUT.

EXPERIENCE OF CAPTAIN CUSONS.

An Able Address Before Lee Camp Last Night on This Interesting Subject—The Other Business Transacted.

Lee Camp Hall was crowded with members and their ladies last evening. The occasion was an address before Captain John Cusons, of Glen Allen, had promised to deliver on scout life after the regular routine business of the weekly meeting had been transacted. Colonel A. W. Archer was in command and Adjutant J. Taylor Stratton presided.

Colonel Archer stated that on Sunday morning he received a telegram from Colonel Irwin of Pickett-Buchanan Camp in Norfolk, asking for the appointment of pall-bearers for the funeral of Colonel Irwin. He did so, and appointed Major N. V. Randolph, Comdr. James T. Gray, Frank D. Hill and the commander, who attended the funeral. Pall-bearers were also appointed and served during the week to attend the funeral of Comdr. (Alfred) McDaniel, of the Thirty-third Virginia, who died at the Soldiers' Home.

The funeral of Comdr. George W. Libby, adjutant was requested to notify Pickett-Buchanan Camp that owing to the Lenten season and other circumstances the proposed entertainment should be postponed for the present.

Quartermaster D. A. Brown reported that Captain Cusons, commander of Louisa Camp, had donated a lot of hams to the Soldiers' Home. They were received with thanks.

CAPTAIN CUSONS.

Colonel Archer then introduced Captain Cusons as speaker of the evening.

Captain Cusons was greeted with applause, and while he objected to making an address he declared his willingness to give a few incidents from the late war and to speak of scouting, or scout life. He said sometimes a scout crossed the path of a spy, but there was a vast difference. A spy always went as a friend, while a scout passed as an enemy with his equipment. If a scout was captured he was hung while a scout was usually shot when captured. A scout usually died at night and he selected a dress to suit his purpose. He usually wore a brown suit, imitating the plumage of a partridge. His purpose was to ascertain what the enemy was doing, and to take every precaution to shield himself from observation while approaching the other side. If he keeps himself properly it is astonishing to see how easy he can get through the cordon of the enemy. He goes forward with his elbows, forearms and hands, and in this manner make a comfortable distance.

TAKING A FORT.

The speaker said that sometimes he went on expeditions while on other occasions he took his companions with him. Captain Cusons described in a very interesting manner how a fort on the Nausemound was taken by seven scouts. In scouting with others there is but one thing to do, to advance in Indian file, and in that manner the scouts force in front of the fort were outflanked by the land-locked scouts, and the troops in the fort were demoralized by the firing of their own forces, and left the fort, which was taken by the scouts without the loss of a man. After he had returned to headquarters, orders were issued about 1 P. M. that the scouts were to break up the fort and recapture the fort, which had already been taken. The speaker said that he had mentioned the incident only to show that it was sometimes wise to let scouts take the place of the regular troops. He spoke of the possibilities if the two armies of Lee had not been united with General Jackson. It was a serious thing for a general to divide a small army into two parts in the presence of a larger one. He pictured at some length the situation of the two armies, and how he finally succeeded with his men in pushing back the force of General Pope and restoring communication with General Jackson. The contact between the two armies of Jackson and Longstreet was a few minutes before 10 o'clock in the morning, but this fact has been disputed, especially on the other side. If the connection had not been made about that time, Jackson would have been overwhelmed and the union of the two armies was only made possible through the uniform action of a thoroughly trained body of men.

AN EXPERIENCE.

Captain Cusons narrated his experience at Atlanta's Landing, near Yorktown, where he was scouting with a company by the name of Hartley, of the Huntersville Guards, of the Fourth Alabama, to discover what the enemy was doing. He achieved his object and located Franklin's division, but lost his company. Hartley, who was killed by the retreating of the enemy, his death having been brought about only by the premature click of his gun.

Colonel E. C. Crump then offered a resolution of thanks to Captain Cusons on behalf of the camp and its visitors. The resolution was adopted.

Colonel Archer made quite an elegant speech thanking Captain Cusons for his interesting address and then called on Mayor Elyson, who, he said, was always ready to respond.

The camp then adjourned.

A Dorcas Cantata.

A beautiful cantata was given at Leigh-street church last evening under the auspices of the Dorcas Society, which was highly interesting and creditable to all who took part. The entertainment contained some novel features and the dialogues and music were both well rendered. "An Excursion to Santa Claus' House" was the title of the cantata. Miss Alma Howard presented Solida, the ice queen, and Miss Miss Margie Garrison sang "Silver Bells are Pealing" with great sweetness. Miss Elsie Mangum as Little Bessie sang and acted a humorous song with splendid effect. "In It All a Dream" a duo soprano and alto by Miss Garrison and Miss L. E. Taylor, twelve years old, was excellently well rendered. Mr. J. M. Childers sang a solo entitled "Now It This Should be a Son" that fairly captured the audience. "The Departure of the Train to Santa Claus' House" a glee played by Professor F. L. Watson, was accompanied with mechanical devices that gave it a surprisingly wonderful realism and brought down the house. The entertainment took place in the Sunday school room, and the stage arrangements at the rear were admirable. The costumes were well gotten up, and the scenes on the stage, full of the bright, smiling faces of youth, were highly attractive.

Miss Anna Howard, Miss Margie Garrison, Miss Fannie Burch, Miss Donna Hall, Miss Mary Wilson, Miss Kate Burch, W. C. Parker, W. R. Lipscomb, W. G. Ford, W. H. Parker, Jr., and W. E. Gary were the principal performers.

The audience was large and the entire affair a grand success. Refreshments were served to the participants after the entertainment, and were highly enjoyed.

Mrs. Kendrick's Funeral.

The funeral of Mrs. Lucy King Kendrick, who died on Thursday at her residence at No. 1012 east Broad street, will take place this morning at 12 o'clock at St. John's church. The services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Burton assisted by Rev. Dr. Newton. The interment will be made in the section in the graveyard which for almost a century has been owned by the King family, and Mrs. Kendrick will be buried by the side of her father, who died not long since, and with whom for many years she taught school both at Church Hill and at her late residence.

Mrs. Kendrick was a daughter of Mr. John King, who at the beginning of this century was one of the leading merchants of Richmond. She was a member of Monumental church, and had a life of singular sweetness and purity. The pall-bearers will be as follows: Mr. D. O. Davis, Mr. Frank Stearns, Mr. Peyton Carrington and Messrs. Williams and Murray.

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Colonel William P. Smith will leave on Monday morning for Washington. He has been appointed by Governor McKinney to take charge of the work of copying the records under the provision of the act last passed by the Legislature of the State. The session just closed. The work of copying all the records will keep about twenty clerks busy for four or five months. The amount involved is about \$467,000, which will be paid over by the United States to the State of Virginia, to be distributed among the forty-two counties who are entitled to the money.

An Old Howitzer Buried.

The funeral of Garnet Todd Mosley took place yesterday from his late residence, No. 122 north Twentieth street, at 2 o'clock. The funeral was held at the Howitzer battery. The following members of section No. 2 attended the funeral in fatigues uniform: Corporal A. A. Williams and Privates A. Henderson, Benjamin Brockenborough, W. M. Miller, Austin Spotts, John E. Toles, W. M. Lynch and Hamilton. The funeral was held at the Howitzer battery, which was at Hollywood. One of the pieces was sent out to the cemetery and a salute fired at the close of the services at the grave.

Dr. Watson's Meeting.